

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6798  
INFO EC COLLECTIVE

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PASS AGRICULTURE ELECTRONICALLY

EO 11652: NA  
TAGS: EAGR EEC DA  
SUBJ: INFORMAL EC AGRICULTURAL MINISTERS' MEETING

1. PRIOR TO RELINQUISHMENT OF DANISH PRESIDENCY, AG MINISTER  
DELSAGER INVITED HIS EC COLLEAGUES TO INFORMAL MEETING IN NORTH  
JUTLAND, DENMARK, JUNE 28-29. AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER GUNDELACH  
AND APPROXIMATELY 200 SENIOR EC AGRICULTURAL OFFICIALS ATTENDED  
MEETING AND PARTICIPATED IN EXCURSIONS TO LOCAL AGRICULTURAL  
INDUSTRIES.

2. AGRICULTURAL DISCUSSION CONCENTRATED ON STRUCTURAL POLICIES.  
IT WAS AGREED THAT SHORT-TERM POLICIES SHOULD AIM AT PRESERVING  
SMALL FARMS TO AVOID FURTHER AGGRAVATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT.  
DALSAGER PRESENTED PAPER ON FUTURE STRUCTURAL POLICIES WHICH  
RECOMMENDED  
THAT LONG-TERM POLICIES SHOULD AIM AT GREATER DEGREE  
OF COMMODITY PROCESSING IN THE COMMUNITY INSTEAD OF CURRENT  
GUARANTEE POLICIES WHICH ASSURE THE FARMER A MINIMUM PRICE  
IRRESPECTIVE OF WHETHER THE PRODUCT CAN BE MARKETED. MEETING  
DISCUSSED POSSIBILITY OF CREATING SPECIAL AGRICULTURAL REGIONAL  
FUND TO FINANCE STRUCTURAL MEASURES AND RELIEVE SOME OF PRESSURE  
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ON FEOGA FUND. MINISTERS AGREED TO TAKE MEASURES TO AVOID INCREAS  
ING PRODUCTION OF COMMODITIES IN SURPLUS AND INSTEAD TO ENCOURAGE  
PRODUCTION OF GRAINS AND OTHER FEEDS WHICH ARE IMPORTED INTO  
COMMUNITY IN LARGE VOLUME FROM THIRD COUNTRIES.

3. DURING VISIT TO DAIRY PLANT BY REPRESENTATIVES OF EC'S SPECIAL  
COMMITTEE FOR AGRICULTURE (CSA), TOP DANISH DAIRY OFFICIAL STATED

DANISH INDUSTRY PLACES PRIORITY ON ACHIEVING EQUILIBRIUM IN EC DAIRY SECTOR BY MEANS OF "REASONABLE" EXPORT RESTITUTION LEVELS TO THIRD COUNTRIES AND BILATERAL TRADE AGREEMENTS WITH COUNTRIES WITH GROWING PURCHASING POWER OR LARGER TRADE WITH EC. HE FURTHER STATED EC SHOULD WORK FOR STABLE PRICES ON WORLD MARKET AND THAT EC SHOULD PERFORM AS ONE UNIT IN INTERNATIONAL NEGOTIATIONS TO ADD STRENGTH TO ITS DEMANDS. HE ALSO EMPHASIZED DENMARK'S OBJECTIONS TO NEW ZEALAND'S EXPORTS OF BUTTER TO THE UK, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF THE EC SURPLUS AND THE MILK CO-RESPONSIBILITY LEVY PAID BY EC PRODUCERS AND SAID THE DANISH DAIRY INDUSTRY WILL PUSH FOR NON-RENEWAL OF NEW ZEALAND'S SPECIAL AGREEMENT WHEN IT EXPIRES IN 1980. THE MINISTERS WERE EXPECTED TO DISCUSS THIS QUESTIONS AS WELL AS A REPEAT OF LAST YEAR'S SALES OF "CHRISTMAS BUTTER", TO WHICH THE DANES ARE OPPOSED.

4. AS A SIDELIGHT, THE PRESS GAVE CONSIDERABLE ATTENTION TO THE FAILURE OF UK'S JOHN SILKIN TO SHOW UP AT THE FIRST DAY'S MEETING (REPORTEDLY BECAUSE OF THE UK'S DOMESTIC PARLIAMENTARY SITUATION). IN A SUBSEQUENT STATEMENT TO THE PRESS, HE SHARPLY CRITICIZED GUNDELACH FOR A PUBLIC STATEMENT WHICH HE SAID WAS AT VARIANCE WITH THE TRUTH AND MADE THE BRITISH THE GREAT SINNERS IN THE EC FISHERY QUESTION. HE ASKED FOR UNOFFICIAL SEPARATE TALKS WITH DENMARK AND IRELAND AND STATED THAT DURING COMING WEEKS THE UK IS WILLING TO GIVE CONSIDERABLE CONCESSION TO DANISH FISHERMEN OFF THE BRITISH COAST IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE A SPEEDY ADOPTION OF AN EC NORTH SEA FISHERY ARRANGEMENT. THE DANES WERE THEREFORE SURPRISED

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AT THE SUBSEQUENT UNILATERAL MEASURES ANNOUNCED BY THE HOUSE OF COMMONS RESTRICTING HERRING AND NORWEGIAN POUT FISHING IN BRITISH COASTAL WATERS, MEASURES PARTICULARLY DETRIMENTAL TO DANISH FISHERMEN.

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